

COUNTRY Eastern Germany 25X1 REPORT NO. 25X1

TOPIC General Military Information

EVALUATION 25X1 PLACE OBTAINED 25X1

DATE OF CONTENT 23 to 30 September 1952

DATE OBTAINED DATE PREPARED 24 October 1952

REFERENCES 25X1 25X1

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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1. On 23 September 1952, new tent camps were noticed on both sides of the blocked Jaevenitz-Hottendorf road in the Letzling Heath training area.

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2. About 7 p.m. on 26 September, three troop trains were loaded at the Pathe-now railroad station which was blocked by Volkspolizei. Three T-34/85 tanks including Nos 11 and 13, about 25 trucks, 8 tanks or prime movers and 2 canvas-covered devices were noticed on a train which was allegedly bound for Bernau.

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3. At 11 p.m. on 28 September, 2 boxcars transporting soldiers and an undetermined number of flatcars carrying 4 trucks and 20 tanks were unloaded at the Brandenburg railroad station (Altstadt). The train came from Gross Behnitz. The soldiers left the station in the direction of the Pionier Kaserne. On 29 September, 20 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets and 2 T-34 tanks arrived from Muensdorf and went to the Pionier Kaserne. (3)

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During the night of 25 September, 71 factory new unnumbered trucks were unloaded at the railroad station. Eight of them went to the barracks installation and 66 to the airfield. During the night of 29 September, 36 tanks with covered numbers were detrained. Nine T-34/85 and 5 T-34 tanks went to the barracks installation and 16 T-34/85 and 6 T-34 tanks to the airfield. On 30 September, some columns of vehicles including 12 towing AT guns of about 70 mm caliber were noticed.

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- (2) Records on transportation indicate that the shipments were made by units of the Fourth Gds Mecz Army which had participated in the field exercises of the army in the area south of Mathenow-Lennhausen. The train bound for Bernau probably carried units of the 6th Gds Mecz Div.

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It is possible that elements of this division also participated in the exercise.

- (3) Trains of the 63d Gds Tank Regt of the 10th Gds Tank Div were unloaded in Brandenburg as early as 25 and 27 September. The information that the train came from Gross Behnitz tends to confirm the supposition in Field Comment 2 of the present report that units of the 10th Gds Tank Div participated in the field exercises in the area south of Mathenow-Lennhausen. The two T-34 tanks probably came from the tank repair shop in Quensdorf.
- (4) The information concerning the unloading of units of the 18th Mecz Div, probably the 5th Mecz Regt, on 30 September 1952, is the first indication that units of the Third Shock Army were returning to their home stations. The units were stationed at a troop training grounds during the summer months. This information confirms the previous assumption on the termination of the fall maneuvers of the army.

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